

REMARKS:

In the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner allowed 6-12 and 17, objected to 3, 14 and 15 and rejected claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 13 and 16. Claims 1, 3-5 and 13-16 are amended herein. No new matter is presented. Thus, claims 1-17 are pending and under consideration. The rejections are traversed below.

ALLOWABLE AND ALLOWED CLAIMS:

In the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner allowed claims 6-12 and 17 and objected to claims 3, 14 and 15. Claims 3, 14 and 15 have been amended to be in independent form.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claims 3, 14 and 15 are allowable.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102(b):

Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,440,697 (Boegel).

The simulation scripts of Boegel are limited to simulating the I/O devices for which the scripts are prepared (see, col. 3, lines 29-42). For example, a simulation script in Boegel specifies or identifies one or more I/O devices to be simulated and requires that another simulation script be prepared for simulating other I/O devices not specified in the simulation script (see, col. 2, lines 63-65 and col. 3, lines 29-42).

Independent claim 1 as amended recites, "a setting unit receiving a file where contents of an error of a pseudo target are defined and set and setting the file as a setting file", where the "contents of the file are used to process commands from various types of devices including devices of a different type than the device to be tested."

Boegel is limited to individually preparing simulation scripts for I/O devices and does not teach or suggest, "a file where contents of an error of a pseudo target are defined" and the "contents of the file are used to process commands from various types of devices including devices of a different type than the device to be tested", as recited in claim 1.

It is submitted that independent claim 1 is patentable over Boegel.

For at least the above-mentioned reasons, claim 2 depending from independent claim 1 is patentably distinguishable over Boegel. Claim 2 recites, "a file where information of an I/O device to be simulated is defined and set is set as the setting file". Boegel does not teach or

suggest these features of claim 2.

Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a):

Claims 4, 5, 13 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over various combinations of: Boegel and U.S. Patent No. 6,728,668 (Kitamorn) and U.S. Patent No. 6,546,507 (Coyle).

The Examiner relies on Kitamorn as teaching making a hardware error occur if error contents are set in the setting file. However, Kitamorn uses individual error registers (202a, 204a, and 206a) corresponding CPUs (202, 204, and 206) for indicating an error corresponding to a particular processor based on a detection of the error in the error logic of the particular processor and for controlling reportable error conditions within the processor during execution (see, Col. 4, lines 9-21 and FIG. 2).

The Examiner acknowledges that Boegel does not explicitly teach a protocol error generating unit making a set error of a protocol occur in a portion processing the protocol if contents of the error of the protocol are set in the setting file. However, Coyle is directed to introducing error conditions at each pattern application and saturation level of operations of a bus to identify the occurrence of any errors induced by test signals (see, FIG. 5 and corresponding text).

Independent claims 4 and 5 recite, "receiving a file where contents of an error of a pseudo target are defined and set and setting the file as a setting file", where contents of the file are "used to process commands from various types of devices including devices of a different type than the device to be tested."

Independent claim 13 recite that the contents of the file are "used to process commands from various types of devices including devices of a different type than the device to be tested" and "a pseudo I/O process in which the received command is processed according to set contents when contents corresponding to the command are set when referencing the setting file" is performed. Independent claim 13 further recites, "returning the data after being processed to the device to be tested at a request source" and "generating a hardware error in hardware when error contents of the hardware are set in the setting file."

Independent claim 16 recites, "a single file having contents of an error of a pseudo target" is set, where "the contents of the file [are] useable to process commands from various

types of devices including devices of a different type than the device to be tested." As also recited in claim 16, the present invention includes, "referencing the file and processing a command from the device to be tested according to the set contents in the file when the set contents of the file correspond to the command for simulating the actual I/O device."

The cited references, alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest the above-discussed features of each of the independent claims 4, 5, 13 and 16.

Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

ENTRY OF AMENDMENT:

Applicants respectfully request entry of amendments to claims because the amendments were made to place the claims in condition for allowance and do not introduce significant changes that would require a further search.

CONCLUSION:

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

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By: *Temnit Afework*
Temnit Afework
Registration No. 58,202

1201 New York Ave, N.W., 7th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501